

MY NAME

My Country page 30

COMMUNITY

DARNLEY ISLAND, QLD

MY COUNTRY

Erub: tropical paradise

OF VOLCANIC ORIGIN, THROUGH THE YEARS ERUB HAS BECOME A MELTING POT OF DIFFERENT CULTURES

MY NAME IS...

Torres Bradley Webb.

MY POSITION IS...

I'm a Movement Monitoring Officer working for the federal Department of Immigration and Citizenship. I aspire to be a good role model and leader for my people in the Torres Strait. I'm a part of the Asia Pacific Indigenous Youth Network. I'm also a part of National Youth Week.

MY MOB IS...

My mob is from Darnley Island, I'm an Erubam Le. I'm of the Samsap tribe.

I LIVE ON...

Darnley Island in the eastern Torres Strait.

THE POPULATION HERE IS...

about 400 people in four traditional clan groups. There are a higher percentage of young people in our community.

BRIEF HISTORY...

On 1 July 1871, the London Missionary Society anchored at Erub in the Torres Strait to convert the South West Pacific Islander peoples, including us, to Christianity. Before this, pearl and beche de mer gatherers visited the island. Over many years these industries attracted an influx of seaman from the Pacific Islands, the Philippines and Malaya. Many of whom married local women and settled on the island. Early in the 20th century, the Queensland Government started installing



A HEALTHY ISLAND LIFESTYLE: TORRES GROWS ALL HIS OWN FRUIT AND VEGGIES

various facilities including schools, medical aid posts, a post office and an island industries board store. Darnley Island people have been at the forefront of the movement for adequate recognition of Torres Strait Islander's rights, with Elder Statesman George Mye being political leader.

DESCRIPTION:

Erub is a tropical island paradise. It is situated 350 km north east of Australia's mainland. The largest of the eastern Islands' group, Erub is of volcanic origin composed mainly of lava and ash which has formed rich soil. The Island has many beautiful beaches and is surrounded by pristine coral reef systems which are rich in natural marine resources.

LIFESTYLE:

The council is our main employer here and we have an organisational run CDEP, but a lot of our community members fish for coral trout and mackerel and also dive for crayfish to earn extra cash, and for family. Because of the good soil here, we can grow just about any tropical fruits, so gardening is another main part of everyone's lifestyle. I personally grow watermelons, bananas, sweet potatoes, spinach, cassava, passion fruit, paw paws, guava, avocados, and I have plenty of mangoes. I grow these because my family has always grown their own; it's traditional. It's a healthy way to live and the cost of fruit and vegetables in this area are approximately three times the cost things are down south. The floods in Queensland have driven up prices as availability is scarce now. One lettuce usually costs us \$6 up here; that'll be more now.

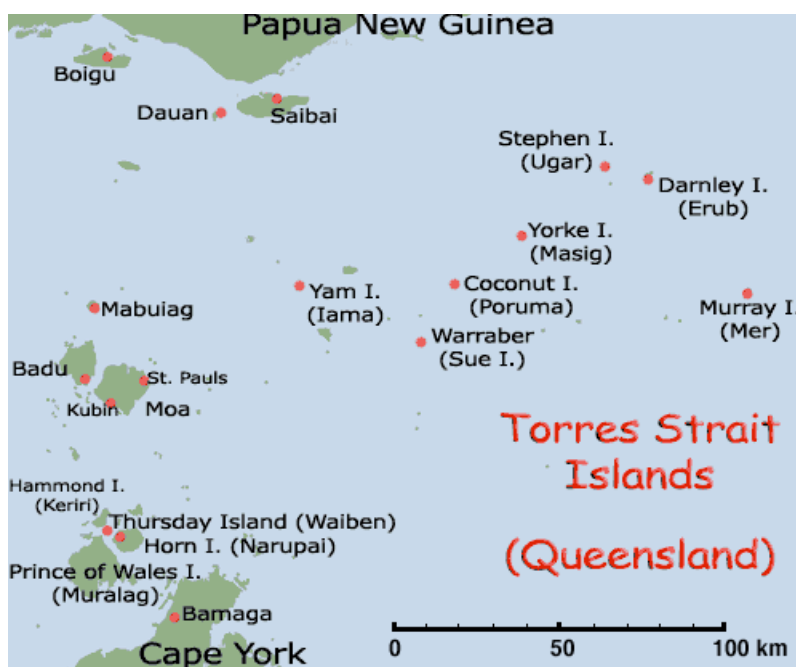
VIBE SCHOOL

Issue 168
Years 3-4

Torres Bradley Webb comes from Darnley Island in the Torres Strait above Queensland.
The local name for Darnley Island is Erub.



Darnley Island, Queensland



Australia states and territories

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ACTIVITY 1 - READING FOR MEANING

There are three levels of comprehension questions:

Level 1 – Literal. The answer is located in one sentence in the text.

Level 2 – Inferred. You need to make links between sentences and graphics (such as illustrations, maps and tables) and what you already know.

Level 3 – Applied. The answer is in your background knowledge, what you already know or feel.

1. What is the population of Darnley Island (Erub)? (literal)

2. What happened on July 1, 1871? (literal)

3. In what order did these events happen? (inferred)

Number the boxes 1, 2, 3, 4.

- People from the London Missionary Society landed at Erub on July 1, 1871.
- Pearlsh visited the island.
- The Queensland government built schools on Erub in the early 1900s.
- George Mye leads the movement to have the rights of Torres Strait Islanders recognised.

4. What would be one good thing about living on Erub? (applied)

ACTIVITY 2 - LANGUAGE CONVENTIONS - SPELLING

The spelling mistakes in these sentences have been underlined.

Write the correct spelling for each word in the box.

1. Torres wants to be a good leeder.

2. The population hear is 400 people.

3. There area lot of yung people on the island.

Each sentence has one word that is incorrect.

Write the correct spelling of the word in the box.

1. Pearlers visited the iland a long time ago.

2. Skools were built on Erub in the 1900s.

3. The island has menny beautiful beaches.

ACTIVITY 3 - LANGUAGE CONVENTIONS - GRAMMAR

Which word correctly completes these sentences?

Shade one bubble.

1. Torres lives on Erub _____ he likes it.

- although
- because
- that
- then

2. Next week the council _____ a meeting.

- will have
- be having
- have had
- had

3. The floods _____ affected Erub are over.

- that
- where
- who
- what

ACTIVITY 4 - LANGUAGE CONVENTIONS - PUNCTUATION

Read these sentences. Some words and punctuation have been left out.

Which words and punctuation correctly completes each sentence?

Shade one bubble.

1. Torres Bradley Webb belongs to the _____ .

- samsep tribe
- samsep Tribe
- Samsep tribe
- Samsep Tribe

2. _____ they caught some fish.

- one day
- one, day
- One day
- One Day,

3. "What have we _____ Torres asked.

- caught"
- caught?"
- caught,"
- caught."

ACTIVITY 5 - WRITING ABOUT YOUR COMMUNITY

Torres Bradley Webb describes a little about himself and where he lives.

Using the same headings, write about you and your community. Add pictures.

My name is:

My position is:

The population here is:

Brief history:

Description:

Lifestyle: